

REMARKS

Claims 1-35, 37-46 and 54-57 are pending. By this amendment, claims 47-53, 58 and 59 are canceled. Applicants submit that the application is in immediate condition for allowance.

Allowable Claims

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 1-35, 37-46 and 54-57 are allowed. Applicants submit that the application is in immediate condition for allowance in view of the cancellation of the remaining rejected claims.

35 U.S.C. §101 Rejection

Claims 53 and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims.

35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd Paragraph Rejection

The Examiner asserts that claims 47-52 and 58 are incomplete for omitting essential elements which amount to a gap between the necessary structural connections under MPEP section 2172.01. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the Examiner has mischaracterized and misapplied MPEP 2172.01. In any event, these claims are canceled which renders this rejection moot.

Miscellaneous Matters

Applicants have cancelled claims 47-53, 58 and 59 from further consideration in this application. Applicants are not conceding in this application that those claims are not patentable,

as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to **IBM Deposit Account No. 09-0456** (Burlington).

Respectfully submitted,
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